



FROM DEANNA ROY AUTHOR OF BABY DUST

# FOREVER INNOCENT

## Forever Innocent

*Deanna Roy*

[Download now](#)

[Read Online ➔](#)

# Forever Innocent

*Deanna Roy*

## Forever Innocent Deanna Roy

"Our baby died on prom night, and nothing was ever the same again."

Corabelle doesn't feel like any of the other college girls. On what should have been one of the happiest nights of her life, she and her boyfriend Gavin watched a nurse disconnect the ventilator from their seven-day-old baby. During the funeral two days later, Gavin walked out and never returned.

Since then, her life has been a spiral of disasters. The only thing that has helped is her ability to black out whenever the pain gets too hard to bear, a habit that has become an addiction.

When Gavin shows up in her astronomy class four years later, he is hell-bent on getting her back, insisting she forgive him. Corabelle knows she can't resist the touch that fills the empty ache that has haunted her since he left. But if he learns what she has done, if he follows the trail back through her past, her secrets will destroy their love completely. And once again, she'll lose the only person who always believed she was innocent.

New Adult Contemporary Romance

## Forever Innocent Details

Date : Published September 26th 2013 by Casey Shay Press (first published September 23rd 2013)

ISBN : 9781938150180

Author : Deanna Roy

Format : Paperback 288 pages

Genre : New Adult, Romance, Contemporary, Contemporary Romance



[Download Forever Innocent ...pdf](#)



[Read Online Forever Innocent ...pdf](#)

**Download and Read Free Online Forever Innocent Deanna Roy**

---

## From Reader Review *Forever Innocent* for online ebook

### Tanja ~ T's Book ~ KT Book Reviews says

I am going to say up front that I have mixed emotions about this book. There was just something missing in *Forever Innocent* and I just can't put my finger on it. The writing was good. The story was good. I think my disconnect was with the "here" of the book and not so much the "then" of the book. Does that make sense? Okay, deep breath. I am diving in.

Corabelle and Gavin were together since before they could talk. They grew up together, grew in love together and had a baby together. Their baby lived only seven days and immediately after the funeral Gavin left never to be heard from till four years later.

Corabelle has lived the past four years in a grieving, unresponsive nonmoving state until Gavin appears in one of her college classes. She is immediately thrown back to four years earlier and you start to see symptoms of panic attacks. Once Gavin talks to her he is hell bent on getting her back.

Yeah, about that.... I have said it before and I will say it again. I have issues with H that rather than stay and help their h through a horrendous time, take off and leave them high and dry. It has been a trend in many popular New Adult storylines. I think it is cowardly and I don't find it at all attractive.

Having said that, it's the "then" of *Forever Innocent* that touched me the most. I cried many tears. This writer really pulled me in during the birth, hospitalization and ultimate death of baby Fin. My heart broke for this young couple. It was touching and incredibly sad.

Where Gavin dealt with this by running away and using booze and hookers to cope, Corabelle just went numb, not living at all and not moving on. I really thought this would be addressed more, I think this is where my disconnect comes from. The now is a contradiction of courting and blame. The ending left me unsatisfied as well. There is no real cliffhanger but the author lets us know there will be more to come in a second book. Will I be reading the next book? Probably not. Was I moved by this book? Absolutely.

3 Stars

T~

\*Given via Netgalley in exchange for an honest review

Expected publication: October 1st 2013

[www.ktbookreviews.blogspot.com](http://www.ktbookreviews.blogspot.com)

---

### Lindsay says

Holy crap. The dreaded cliff strikes again. I really need to start doing my research before reading a book.

This book kept me hooked from page one. I loved the history between Corabelle and Gavin. It added so much depth to the story. It was easy for me to feel the connection between them, and feel how connected

they once were.

There was so much sadness and grief I this book. My least favorite thing about the book is the exact same thing that made it so great...the emotion. The author literally had me in tears.

My only other complaint was the ending. I'm not sure how many more books there will be, but this had a definite Fallen Too Far feel...like it stopped right in the middle of the story. I seriously hate that. And I could spend page after page ranting about it, but I just don't have the energy to do that right now.

I'll definitely be reading the next book because I **HAVE** to know what happens to Corabelle and Gavin. I really want to see them get their HEA. After everything they've been through, they deserve it.

---

### **Christine says**

***“Crossing the line isn't about forgetting the people we love. It's about not letting our past sorrow steal our future”***

This is a beautiful story about two broken people, who have experienced great loss, a loss they have never fully recovered from.

Corabelle is starting fresh. She had her life all planned out in New Mexico, but after a lapse in judgement left her arrested, she was asked to leave her safety bubble and set sights for San Diego. She is broken. She lost her baby days after he was born, the love of her life walks out on her when she needed him the most, and the only thing she has left is her education. She's a recluse. She has her heart set on finishing her degree in the hopes that it will help her move forward and forget the past that is still haunting her. What she doesn't expect is running into her former love in her astronomy class.

Gavin up and left the life that he once knew. He walked out on the one person in the world that would always be there for him and he never looked back. He has been drifting through life, as a shell of the former person he once was. He does what he can to get by and has picked up a few habits along the way. He's attending UCSD working towards a degree in Geology, never in his wildest dreams did he ever imagine himself face to face with the woman that was once his salvation standing across from him in his Astronomy class.

Gavin

Corabelle

I honestly wanted to love this story but for some reason there was that little something missing for me, and I found myself not being able to connect with the characters and their story as I'd hoped I would. I can imagine what a tragic loss like would do to a person and the recovery is excruciating but for some reason I just couldn't feel anything for either of them. I know how heart breaking it is to lose a child and I know everyone grieves in their own way but I just couldn't feel that connection that I want to feel when I read a book.

Don't get me wrong, it's beautifully written and those flash back scenes where we witness Finn's last moments with his parents were so bloody heart breaking. The author has pulled off those moments perfectly and you can't help but shed a tear for the young couple.

I don't know? Maybe it's an off day for me but I just wasn't feeling this one today. Though I am looking forward to see where the road takes Corabelle and Gavin in the next book.

### 3.5 Stars

---

#### **Heather says**

Deanna Roy writes this story about a young couple faced with tragedy and their second chance romance. I really liked the way this story was told. It starts in the present where Corabelle and Gavin are both students at UCSD, their college by the sea. They are both recovering from tragedy and healing in their own ways. For them, it's the only way they know how. The story flashes back to the loss and devastation that they faced. I really liked the way it played out. It gave me as the reader the full impact of the tragedy without weighing the book down so much that it became overwhelming.

Corabelle is a bright young woman. She has suffered a horrific tragedy and was left to pick up the pieces on her own. She survived but was not left unscathed. She has never forgotten. She is weighed down with the burden of guilt and secrets that if uncovered could destroy her.

Gavin has been struggling. His father was less than ideal. When he and Corabelle were together, life made sense, things were good. All that changed the day their baby was born. Gavin was put in a situation where he was tested, and in his mind, he failed.

Gavin and Corabelle were "the couple" in their hometown. The community loved them together. So when Corabelle and Gavin found out they were going to have a baby, everyone was happy. But when the baby died a short seven days later, their relationship was destroyed.

Flash forward four years. Corabelle is a shell of her former self. Those close enough to call her friend never see her smile. She is not the same girl she used to be. Neither is Gavin. He is a ball of rage and anger. Corabelle is about to restart her life in a new town at a new school. She transferred her senior year after an incident at her former University. Gavin is struggling to finish school piecing a degree together one semester at a time. On her first day at her new school, Corabelle walks into her "easy A" elective, Astronomy, and comes face to face with her past.

Gavin can not believe his eyes. He has never forgotten or gotten over Corabelle. She was the love of his life. They try to stay apart, but fate keeps pushing them back together. So Gavin decides that he will do whatever

it takes to get her back. Even if it means coming clean and admitting that he has been less than perfect.

Corabelle is HIGHLY reluctant to give in to Gavin again. The last time they were together, it nearly destroyed her when he walked away. But Gavin knows the way to her heart and he is intent on making her his yet again.

The sadness over the loss of their sweet baby boy eats away at the couple day by day, each feeling guilt over the loss in their own way. Neither able to move forward alone.

Together, they may just be able to face the demons of their past and move forward. In each others arms, they can breathe again, they can live again.

But what happens when the past catches up with you? Can they survive the truth?

I have to admit, when I read the synopsis of this book, I thought "No way, that sounds WAY to sad.". But I was surprised. This book is about loss, but it is mostly about the triumph of true love. The kind of love that doesn't know time or location. The kind of love that can forgive and never grows old. It was so sweet and heartbreakingly beautiful.

The story is told from both points of view so we get a glimpse of what both Gavin and Corabelle have had to endure. I really loved the romantic Gavin but I also understood his anger. Corabelle was so young and she blamed herself in so many ways. I thought this author did an amazing job of creating these two flawed and real people. The reality of loss is written about in a way that didn't leave me feeling depressed and alone but hopeful and redeemed. Well done!

This one got four stars for me and was definitely worth the read. I really enjoyed it and found it incredibly sweet and romantic despite the heavy subject matter.

---

\*\*\*This book was provided by the author or publisher via NetGalley in exchange for a fair and honest review.\*\*\*

### **B.E.Love says**

**I never knew about these," he said. "They showed up later." I tried to cover them, but he pushed my hands away. "They're beautiful." He began kissing each pale line, hip to stomach and back down**

**again. "It's proof that Finn was once here."**

This is such a beautiful book that tore at my heart and made me so sad then gave me hope. The writing of is so well done it flows effortlessly and I found myself flying through this book. I will say straight away that this is a series and Corabelle and Gavin's story isn't done, but this book doesn't end on a cliffhanger and **\*\*SPOILER\*\*** Gavin and Corabelle are together at the end of this book **\*\*END SPOILER\*\*** While reading this book I felt the pain Gavin and especially Corabelle felt I cried through out this book, it's very obvious that Deanna Roy took this book very series and to heart and that she had a personal experience related to this book and that's why the pain and feeling jump off the pages while reading *Forever Innocent*.

Finn and Corabelle have known each other since birth and were best friends till they learned they could be more. Since then they spent every second being together. When Corabelle found out she was pregnant Corabelle and Gavin's plans grew to include there son. But seven days after Finn was born he died and then Gavin left. Now four years later Corabelle has enrolled in her last year of college. When Corabelle walks into class she is shocked to see Gavin. Gavin just wants to get through college and can't believe his eye's when he see's Corabelle. Emotions are high but neither can deny their past or the fact that they never let go of the other. Now Gavin and Corabelle will both have to decide if they can move away from their hurt and make a future together but Pain, loss and secrets may keep them from the only person they each ever loved.

*Forever Innocent* was one of the most heart wrenching beautiful books I ever read. All I wanted while reading this book was for Gavin and Corabelle to forgive themselves and be happy together. Gavin Loved Corabelle more than anything in this world and only wanted to be with her, and once he thought that may be possible he made sure he did everything in his power to get Corabelle back. Corabelle was so broken after not only the loss of their baby but the loss of the love of her life and my heart broke for her, but she was also strong and decided to get herself and her life back as well as put her trust in the one person who could destroy her. I can't wait to see what happens with the rest of the series, I will be reading every book in this series so that I can see Gavin and Corabelle's happy ending. I can't recommend this book enough.

**\*\*Thank you NetGallery for an ARC copy for my review\*\***

---

**Cari Sury (Girl+Book Love Blog) says**

See more of my reviews at [www.girlbooklove.com!](http://www.girlbooklove.com)

Whoa. Emotional rollercoaster. Heavy angst. Lots of crying. Really good.

So it took me awhile to be able to process my thoughts! This was one heck of a good book! I was blown away while reading it! (and after!) Corabelle and Gavin's story was heartbreaking. They lost their son Finn just a few days after he was born. They were young, but I loved how they were so committed to each other and their son. When they suffered that tragic event, they didn't know how to cope. I don't think anyone would know how to, but it pushed them to react different ways. Gavin left. Corabelle felt betrayed and abandoned. Well, years later they are pushed back together and are now having to deal with everything from four years ago. Let me tell you, I can't imagine how I would react. Probably just like Corabelle did!!!

**"Corabelle?"**

*My name sounded familiar when he said it, as though no one had used it since him. "Yeah?"*

*"Seems like the world wants us to at least be friends again."*

*I didn't know which words to get stuck on. Friends. Or at least. "Seems like it."*

Both of these characters were so complex and fabulously written. They jump off the page. The storyline is heart breaking, captivating and superbly written. I honestly think this is an incredible book and that readers will fall in love with Corabelle and Gavin like I did.

---

### **Killian says**

**"Our baby died on prom night, and nothing was ever the same again."**

I'll be honest. With a description that started like that, I was expecting *Forever Innocent* to be much more emo than it was. I was expecting histrionics on a scale only middle schoolers can aspire to. What I walked away with was a deep sense of what losing a baby you didn't expect must do to someone emotionally. Especially when you are just leaving highschool. I know that my high school self would not have coped well with half of what Corabelle and Gavin went through.

Both of their reactions to the death of their baby made total sense. They weren't the reactions that you would hope to have in that situation, but realistically... Yeah. Self destruction would rule my mental space for a while, I'm sure. Then, to top it off, if I was Corabelle and dealing with the misplaced guilt *and* the baby-daddy running off, never to be seen again, on the day of the funeral? I might have a few emotional problems too. There were some really painful scenes in this book, that were incredibly hard to read.

Now, for the reasons that this only got a "liked" star rating. One big thing that confused/annoyed me was the non-presence of Corabelle's parents post-Finn. They seemed very involved in both H/H's lives, and then weren't there for their daughter emotionally afterward? It seems like they would have been able to help and see that she needed psychological help. Near the end, we also began slipping into emo territory, but it was only around the last 30 pages. And the ending was... abrupt to say the least. When I saw that this was the beginning of a series, I wasn't surprised. They still have some pretty major issues to work out.

My biggest issue though was that I never connected with Corabelle or Gavin. I didn't particularly like or dislike either of them, so it was hard to cheer on their (possible) HEA. The scenes I most connected with were the flashbacks of the events surrounding Finns birth, but this was in a more general way, not specifically because it was those two characters going through these heart-rending moments.

Overall, a refreshingly grounded look at two kids who had a kid, lost their kid, lost themselves, and tried to make it work years later. Nothing in their story was easy, and I don't expect it will get any easier, though I am not likely to read the next installment.

*ARC courtesy of Casey Shay Press, via Netgalley in exchange for an honest review.*

---

### **Claire Robinson says**

This is a book that will stay with me for a very long time, and although it ends with a bit of a cliff-hanger I

can forgive Deanna Roy for it because, in all honesty I kind of need a break from the exhaustive emotional roller-coaster she put me through in the last 35% of the book.

Corabelle and Gavin grew up together, had a baby together, lost their baby together, then fell apart separately.

I must admit that when I initially started reading *Forever Innocent*, my first thoughts were that there is no way all of these things can have happened to a young couple in their early twenties, but as you keep reading you realise that things started between Corabell and Gavin at a very young age, so the passing of time and the events that they have had to deal with make the story even more emotional.

This is quite a deep book and it deals with a lot of heavy issues, not just the loss of a child, but drug taking, prostitution, underage sex (although this isn't really confirmed, it is the way it seemed to me) and to a degree mental illness to name but a few.

Corabelle and Gavin, as a result of the loss of their child are both in very dark places when they run into each other after 4 years apart, and the book being written from both their POV's gives you a painfully honest insight into how each of them are dealing with their lives, emotions and the unresolved issues that they still have between them. Both have secrets, and both are scared to share them for fear of losing the other again.

Deanna knows what she is talking about with regards to the loss of a child, and I have nothing but respect for her writing this book. It was only after finishing it that I discovered this, but throughout the book I felt it had been written from experience rather than research, the emotions were so raw, painful and at times had me sobbing into my tissue. I will never look at a butterfly in the same way again that is for sure.

It almost feels wrong to say I can't wait for book two *Forever Loved*, but I really want to see this couple get their HEA, because they really deserve it.

I want to thank Deanna Roy and Netgalley for providing me with an ARC of this book, and for that privilege I am pleased to provide the above honest review.

---

### **Pam says**

*5 stars*

***“Crossing the line isn’t about forgetting the people we love. It’s about not letting our past sorrow steal our future joy.”***

Gavin and Corabelle did not have it easy, in fact, what they went through is not something anyone should ever go through, but sadly for them it was their reality and something they had to survive at such a young

age. Years after Gavin left Corabelle alone at the funeral parlor; fate has thrown them together once again. Not prepared for the emotion that comes when they see one another, they do everything they can to keep their distance, only it's kinda hard when you're in the same class and have nowhere else to really go.

***Life seemed to be throwing us at each other. Hadn't it done enough already?***

Gavin can't help wonder, what it all means, there has to be a reason she is here with him. Corabelle is trying to move on, trying to stick to her goals, but seeing Gavin again brings back all the memories, how could he still turn her world upside down.

***You didn't find someone you loved and lost a long time ago just to lose them again. I refused to believe it. I wouldn't let that happen.***

Realizing that without each other they were just going through the motions, day-by-day. They both have a lot to confess, guilt about the things they did eating away at them. Everyone handles loss in different ways and they are no exception, but it takes them being together to finally see what they everything they have been missing.

**Forever Innocent** is a book that completely moved me, it was heartbreakingly beautiful. This isn't a topic that most would read about, but I though it was tastefully written. I don't know how many times while I was reading this book that I reached out to touch my kids, just making sure they were still there. This was a five-star read for me because of all the emotion I felt, I really connected and went through each memory with them, I usually stay clear of books that make me cry, but this is one that I was glad to tear up for.

Their story followed how they each dealt with their greatest loss and the road that brought them to where they are today. I couldn't help but root for them the entire way; they both deserved a second chance at love, especially one like theirs. I am happy to say that this book wasn't a complete downer, there were some witty dialogue, crazy fun friends, and sexual-chemistry between Gavin and Corabelle that just made it even more special. This isn't a stand-alone read, but the ending just makes you wonder what is coming next. I had to jump right in, having devoured this in one sitting, I needed the second book because I wanted their HEA so bad.

---

### **Anne OK says**

A second chance at love story between two high schoolers who shared an extremely difficult and life-changing situation in their teens, parted and then were once again reunited years later -- but whether or not their relationship full of hurt and secrets can be re-ignited is another story. One that includes a dreaded cliffhanger.

Tempting start to a new NA series that may lead me back to picking up the second book.

---

## Michelle says

**Advance Reviewer Copy in exchange for honest review. Copy provided by the publisher via NetGalley.**

**\*\* I would rate this book a 3.8\*\***

Forever Innocent takes you on an emotional journey of heartbreak, loss, fear, love, guilt, hate, sadness, happiness, anger, and resentment.

Corabelle and Gavin were two childhood friends who became lovers then parents. Their perfect love story came to an end when they both experience the tragic loss of their 7 day old baby boy, Finn. The death of Finn greatly impacted Corabelle and Gavin. Their lives were forever changed and the once happy loving relationship was destroyed.

*"Our baby died on prom night, and nothing was ever the same again."*

*"I have to believe we found each other for a reason..Despite everything we'd been through, I wanted nothing between us, and to find that place had always bound us. Passion. Emotion. "*

Four years has passed since the death of their baby and destiny or fate reunited Corabelle and Gavin once again. The love between Corabelle and Gavin still strongly exists. They knew they were each other soul-mates and they belonged to each other.

*"Crossing the line isn't about forgetting the people we love. It's about not letting our past sorrow steal our future joy. Our lives were made up hundreds of these lines. Choosing when to cross was different for each person. We each had our own timeline for letting go"*

The love and attraction these two had for each were evident after being separated for four years. While the couple were trying to rebuild their relationships, we get flashbacks of their happy and sad times and of course their memories of Finn. The alternating POV of Finn's death happened to be the most gut wrenching and heartbreak thing to read. You could feel the loss and sadness that Gavin and Corabelle experience while watching their beloved Finn pass before their eyes.

During those four years apart, past secrets were being kept. Mistakes were made, guilt and regrets were consuming and haunting them. When these secrets were exposed, Corabelle and Gavin are at a crossroads in their journey to the happily ever after. Readers are left a bit of cliffhanger and would have to wait till *Forever Loved* to be released.

I am hoping that Gavin and Corabelle will finally get their forever and second chance to a happily ever after ending.

Forever Innocent reminds all of us that everyone grieves in their own way whether it be shutting out people of their lives, thoughts of suicide, depression, anger, rebellion, addiction, or running away. Gavin and Corabelle dealt with their grief and regrets in the only way they knew how and so I am looking forward to reading the next book in hopes that they both will finally be on the same path of healing and forgiveness. Deanna Roy

---

### **Aestas Book Blog says**

**I just was sent a little excerpt from this book and liked the sound of it! Plus, I love second-chance romances so I'm adding it to my list :)**

*"Our baby died on prom night, and nothing was ever the same again."*

**Corabelle doesn't feel like any of the other college girls. On what should have been one of the happiest nights of her life, she and her boyfriend Gavin watched a nurse disconnect the ventilator from their seven-day-old baby. During the funeral two days later, Gavin walked out and never returned.**

**Since then, her life has been a spiral of disasters. The only thing that has helped is her ability to black out whenever the pain gets too hard to bear, a habit that has become an addiction.**

**When Gavin shows up in her astronomy class four years later, he is hell-bent on getting her back, insisting she forgive him. Corabelle knows she can't resist the touch that fills the empty ache that has haunted her since he left. But if he learns what she has done, if he follows the trail back through her past, her secrets will destroy their love completely. And once again, she'll lose the only person who always believed she was innocent.**

### **New Adult Contemporary Romance**

---

### **Dianne says**

I thought I was going to love this story, but it just didn't meet my expectations. From the beginning, I couldn't connect with this book very well. The book just seemed so fickle. I felt like each chapter jumped from one to another. I just didn't read a smooth transition from any of the chapters that I would normally see.

For most of the story I just couldn't connect with Gavin and Corabelle. I didn't like the hero Gavin because he left Corabelle at one of the most traumatic point of their lives. He left Corabelle alone to deal with her pain while he went off with prostitutes. I just couldn't connect with Corabelle either. I wish we had gotten to know Corabelle a little better because for some reason she was unlikable to me.

To be honest I thought the book was kind of dull for more than half the book. However, somewhere after the middle the book kept getting more and more heartbreak. Everything that Gavin and Corabelle went through really ate at me. I cannot imagine going through anything like that.

The ending really did aggravate me. I hate that the ending was left open. There wasn't a cliffhanger per se but there were so many questions left unanswered. Which I assume was needed to make room for the next book but still nonetheless irritating. I guess I have to see what happens in the next book.

\*\*\*ARC was provided by netgalley.

---

## **Kirsty says**

### **\*3.5 stars\***

This book has a brilliant blurb and I was expecting BIG things when I opened it up, but it just fell a little flat for me. Yes it had its moments of being deeply emotional but on the whole it really only skimmed the surface of what it could be.

*"Our baby dies on prom night, and nothing was ever the same again."*

Fast forward 4 years from said prom night, and Corabelle is a shell of her former self. She's lost not only her baby, but the love of her life too. As well as dealing with some hidden demon. She is attending university but keeps herself to herself, she hasn't had a boyfriend in those 4 years and at her job at the coffee shop, she's known as 'Iced Latte'.. that cracked me up.

*"Corabelle used to light up a room. Her laughter was the happiest sound in the world."*

Gavin has been living a similar life, battling his own demons too. Walking out on his own life the night of his son's funeral is a mistake he has had to live with for the past 4 years, as well as trying to attend university too. He has nothing, makes no relationships and doesn't bond with anybody. Keeps himself to himself and that's okay for him. Until he meets Corabelle again..

Having them end up in the same college class had me rolling my eyes but what else could I expect from a book? Their second chance at love didn't come about straight away, Corabelle was very hesitant. As you can imagine. Once it did start though, and it was before 50% I'm sure, then it did. Not. Stop. I get it, you haven't seen each other for so long and you have history, but jeez I found it TOO much. There needed to be more to the story than them constantly sleeping together whenever they had a moment to themselves. I wanted to know about the past, what caused Gavin to walk out? Why is Corabelle constantly feeling so guilty?

We do eventually find out what had gone on, and honestly, the scenes we are given when Corabelle and Gavin go back in time to when their baby, Finn died, and those scenes were horrific. I was just a mess. This was the only time where I felt any emotion through the whole book, my heart hurt and I just wanted to hug every character involved. Aside from that? I didn't feel anything.

*"The pregnancy has failed. Then parenthood failed."*

I wasn't aware this was the start of a series. There is definitely more of their story to tell, both of them are battling some pretty serious demons. And whilst I didn't love this book, I am invested enough to find out how they overcome all of their issues. There is a minor cliffhanger but nothing to get your knickers in a twist

about. You just want to know where it goes from there...

*\*ARC provided by NetGalley on behalf of Casey Shay Press in turn for an honest review.\**

---

## **Lady Vigilante (Feifei) says**

### **DNF at 56% of the book; Spoilers ahead. Read at your own risk**

Corabelle and Gavin have a painful past. They were best friends, then lovers, and made plans to go to the same college. All that changed when Corabelle got pregnant and their baby boy Finn (love that name) died. Already vulnerable, Corabelle needed Gavin to be there for her and instead, he hightails it out of the funeral and never returns. Until they see each other in astronomy class 4 years later. Corabelle is a shell of who she once was. Gavin desperately wants her back.

This book started pretty strong. I quite liked Corabelle's determination and strength when she could have been a simpering weakling after all of her experiences. The main problem I had was with Gavin. From the blurb, you'd think he realized his mistake in leaving Corabelle and want to get her back, right? Here's a snippet from the blurb:

*"When Gavin shows up in her astronomy class four years later, he is hell-bent on getting her back, insisting she forgive him."*

So he sees Corabelle with a guy (potential boyfriend material, but never actually is her boyfriend) and loses his temper, and instead of **confirming** that fact, he runs off to find some fucking prostitutes!!! He even has a special one, Rosa!

*"After her I found other girls, closer, in San Diego, and realized that prostitutes were a perfect solution. No strings. No mess. No mistakes.*

Yeah, whatever dude! \*Inner shudder\* You wanted to atone for your past mistakes, you DO NOT run off into another woman's arms. It turned out he couldn't get it up with her and he has \*gasp\* an epiphany: since he couldn't perform for another woman it's a fucking **SIGN** that he needs to work on Corabelle. \*cue eyeball roll\*

That wasn't even the worst part. The NUMBER 1 reason I slapped a DNF to this book was the communication between Corabelle and Gavin. The lack of it, I mean. Both of them have their secrets. Gavin got his nuts chopped off after the funeral so he's afraid Corabelle will take it personally since Finn died. Corabelle got into some pretty deep shit at a previous college and has regular panic attacks. They both tell themselves that they need to tell each other their secrets, but it ends up with them having sex, avoiding each other the next day, having sex, avoiding the main topic. I literally wanted to jump in the book and yell at them to keep their hands off of each other for a minute so they could actually **talk**. I was pretty much done after I got to almost 60% of the book and the story plot didn't evolve much. Add some makeout scenes, plus a sex scene and there you have it folks.

I am just so fucking angry about the plot timeline, which ties into their whole lack of communication issue. The sad part is that I did spend a good portion of my time reading this book and by the time I got past the halfway mark, there was no plot, no character development, nothing to connect me to this story enough for

me to finish it. Truly disheartening because I really wanted to enjoy this story.

**To be fair, I DID NOT attach a star rating to the book since I didn't finish it, but I really believe that what I read was enough for me to give it a 2.5 if I chose to rate it.**

**I wish the author well in future works, but this book was just SO NOT for me.**

*Copy provided by publisher via Netgalley in exchange for an honest review*

---